## DELAWARE STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Mark S. Stellini, Chairman A. Richard Heffron, President

Tom Wheeler Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

September 22, 2014

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As the President of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to you in support of Comcast's proposed merger with Time Warner Cable. The mission of the Chamber is to promote an economic climate that strengthens the competitiveness of Delaware businesses and benefits citizens of the state. The Chamber's programs nurture growth of the state's businesses. Comcast, through the business services it provides, does the same.

Comcast has long been on the leading edge of technology, offering continually faster Internet speeds, WiFi hotspots, and a range of products for small to mid-size businesses that will keep them competitive and growing. In today's marketplace, having access to such tools can make the difference between a company's failure and its success.

A Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger would bring significant benefits to Delaware's business community. By expanding Comcast's presence into other markets, including key markets like New York, our regional businesses will be able to better integrate their communications services across regions. A combined Comcast/TWC would also spark competition and challenge competitors in the market by providing high quality business services. Healthy competition drives down prices, spurs innovation, and energizes the economy of our state and that of the nation.

This transaction would benefit Delaware in other ways, as well. Comcast itself has a strong business presence in our state, with nearly 1,300 employees, and over the last year has invested over \$100 million in Delaware on capital expenditures, taxes and fees, employee investment and community investment. A stronger Comcast is good for everyone in our state.

In this docket, much of the discussion has centered on access to residential broadband. But the FCC must also consider the beneficial effects this merger will have on competition in the business market, which is extremely important for leveraging broadband to create growth, jobs

and prosperity for Americans. We believe that if this deal is approved, Comcast's broadband services will strengthen the backbone of the business community and be a benefit to residential and business customers alike. As such, we hope your approve this transaction.

Regards,

A. Richard Heffron